

BOYD | RICHARDS

(Via ECF)

Hon. Lorna G. Schofield

United States District Judge

Southern District of New York

500 Pearl Street

New York, New York 10007

August 30, 2021

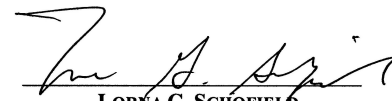
Application GRANTED. All discovery deadlines are stayed until **September 17, 2021**. An amended Case Management Plan and Scheduling Order will follow. No further stays or extensions will be granted absent extraordinary circumstances.

The Clerk of Court is respectfully directed to close the motions at Dkt. Nos. 53 and 55.

Dated: September 1, 2021

New York, New York

Re: *Kastrati v. M.E.G. Restaurant Enterprises Ltd., et al.*,
Case No.: 21-cv-00481(LGS)


LORNA G. SCHOFIELD
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dear Judge Schofield:

We represent the Defendants, M.E.G. Restaurant Enterprises Ltd. d/b/a Novita Restaurant (“Novita”), Marco Fregonese, and Elizabeth Yoshida (the “Defendants”), in the above-referenced action. We write regarding the current discovery deadlines and to request a stay.

I am one of four partners in the New York office which consists of nine attorneys in total. Several weeks ago, one of my partners went on maternity leave and is expected to be out for at least two months. Last week, another partner had a major surgery and is recovering in the hospital. He is expected to be on medical leave for at least three more weeks. Today, I was informed that another partner’s wife tested positive for COVID-19, and while that partner’s health remains uncertain, he will be out for an extended period to take care of their three young children.

Combining the above with my observance of the Jewish holidays, our office faces significant challenges in meeting the Court’s discovery deadline of September 17, 2021. We write, with Plaintiff’s counsel’s consent, to respectfully request that discovery be stayed until further notice, and we will provide the Court with a status within three weeks. In the interim, we request that the Court permit the parties to proceed with the Court-Ordered mediation.

We acknowledge that the parties have previously made two joint requests for an extension of the discovery deadlines; however, this is the Defendants’ first, sole request for a stay of all discovery deadlines. No other deadlines are affected by this request.

BOYD RICHARDS

MIAMI

100 S.E. Second Street, Suite 2600
Miami, Florida 33131
Tel: 786-425-1045 Fax: 786-425-3905

FT. LAUDERDALE

1600 W. Commercial Boulevard, Suite 201
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33302
Tel: 954-848-2460 Fax: 954-848-2470

TAMPA

400 N. Ashley Drive, Suite 1150
Tampa, Florida 33602
Tel: 813-223-6021 Fax: 813-223-6024

WEST PALM BEACH

824 U.S. Highway One, Suite 100
North Palm Beach, Florida 33408
Tel: 561-624-8233 Fax: 561-624-8940

NEW YORK

1500 Broadway, Suite 505
New York, New York 10036
Tel: (212) 400-0626

We thank the Court for its consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,


Gary Ehrlich

cc: All Counsel (*via ECF*)

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100 S.E. Second Street, Suite 2600
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